

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01055 041512Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-05 INR-10 TRSE-00 /041 W

-----018477 041523Z /53

P R 041445Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0962

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USDAO KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1055

DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS TREASURY FOR A/S BERGSTEN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, GB

SUBJ: DELINQUENT FMS PAYMENTS

REF: A) STATE 110511 AND PREVIOUS; B) STATE 037289

1. DURING CALL ON PRES BONGO MAY 3, ASST SECY OF TREASURY BERGSTEN TOLD BONGO THERE WAS AN OUTSTANDING PROBLEM HE WANTED TO MENTION, NAMELY FACT THAT GABON'S FMS ARREARAGES HAD NOT YET BEEN PAID AND SUGGESTED BONGO MIGHT WISH TAKE NOTE OF THAT FACT.

2. BONGO IMMEDIATELY BECAME AGITATED, ASKED ME WHETHER THIS WAS SAME PROBLEM WE HAD DISCUSSED BEFORE (I TOLD HIM IT WAS), AND THEN INSISTED HE HAS PERSONALLY SIGNED "CHECK" IN PAYMENT OF ARREARAGES RIGHT AFTER I HAD FIRST SEEN HIM. I TOLD HIM WE WERE GENERALLY AWARE OF HIS ACTION, BUT THAT REGRETTABLY MONEY HAD NOT YET BEEN DEPOSITED IN TREASURY ACCOUNT AND WE WHTEREFOR FELL HE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT IT SINCE PROBLEM OF NON-PAYMENT WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY SERIOUS. HE REPLIED IMMEDIATELY THAT "NO LATER THAN TOMORROW" HE WOULD PERSONALLY SEE TO IT THAT ANOTHER TRANSFER WAS ARRANGED SUGGESTING THAT THIS TIME HE MIGHT DO IT THROUGH CITIBANK OR LOCAL BANK WITH IMPORTANT US PARTICIPATION SUCH AS BCCI (BANK OF CREDIT AND

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COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL - 30 PERCENT BANK OF AMERICA).

3. WE SHALL SEE. I LATER ASKED CITIBANK TO BE ON LOOKOUT AND LET ME KNOW IF ANYTHING HAPPENED THERE AND THEY PROMISED DO SO. I WOULD IN ANY CASE APPRECIATE IT IF DEPT WOULD MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT OVER NEXT FEW DAYS TO MONITOR TREASURY ACCOUNT AND LET ME KNOW IF ANYTHING HAPPENS.

4. COMMENT: BONGO WAS OBVIOUSLY SURPRISED AND DISTURBED AT NEWS. AS WE SUSPECTED, IT WAS CLEAR THE THOUGH PROBLEM HAD BEEN RESOLVED. I HOPE IT WILL BE THIS TIME. WITH REGARDS GABONESE DESIRES FOR USE 1978 FMS FINANCING, IT OUR UNDERSTANDING THEY STILL WISH APPLY IT TO OUTSTANDING BALANCE C-130 (LIBREVILLE 171). WE HAVE NOT BEEN PUSHING FOR FORMAL GOG STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT DURING ATTEMPTS RESOLVE ARREARAGE PROBLEM. TIENKEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY SALES, DEBT REPAYMENTS  
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**Draft Date:** 04 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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